

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~In a computer system~~ A computing environment comprising a processor providing a unified user interface for a digital modular software component-based shell application having a plurality of software components that execute within the shell application comprising:

~~one or more~~ a plurality of component tables, each component table corresponding to and providing resource information about a particular software component of the digital application, each component table including at least one command for the corresponding component, and each component table including a description for adding the each command to the user interface, each command having an associated priority; and

a master table merged from the one or more plurality of component tables, said master table including available commands and available command vectors for the digital application, each command and command vector having a unique object identifier and a visibility flag specifying whether the command or command vector is to be displayed within the interface to a user of the interface, and said master table comprising at least one information element from among the following information elements: available commands including commands that are not menu commands; available command vectors including command vectors that do not correspond to menus commands; commands that are on toolbars; and commands that map to keystrokes; and  
a unified user interface automatically generated from the master table;

wherein additional components can be subsequently added to a corresponding component table by a user the master table is remerged from the component tables and the user interface is automatically regenerated from the remerged master table in response to modification of a software component of the application.

2-5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1, ~~further comprising an additional component table and wherein the master table is merged from the at least one component table and the additional component table~~ shell application is part of a suite application providing a common environment for the plurality of components.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 4 ~~6~~, wherein a ~~removed component table of the at least one component table corresponds to a removed component and wherein the master table~~ is merged from the remaining component tables of the at least one component table ~~the suite application has a shell user interface and each of the plurality of components has a component user interface different from the shell user interface.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1, wherein the master table includes available commands, menus and toolbars and the location of each available command.

9-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions for a unified user interface for ~~an~~ a modular software component-based shell application having a plurality of software components that execute within the shell application, said computer-readable instructions comprising instructions for:

~~one or more~~ a plurality of component tables, each component table corresponding to and providing resource information about a particular software component of the application, each component table including at least one command for the corresponding component, and each component table including a description for adding the each command to the user interface, each command having an associated priority; ~~and~~

a master table merged from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of component tables, said master table including available commands and available command vectors for the application, each command and command vector having a unique object identifier and a visibility flag specifying whether the command or command vector is to be displayed within the interface to a user of the interface, and said master table comprising at least one information element from among the following information elements: available commands including commands that are not menu commands; available command vectors including command vectors that do not correspond to menus commands; commands that are on toolbars; and commands that map to keystrokes; and

a unified user interface automatically generated from the master table;

wherein ~~additional components can be subsequently added to a corresponding component table by a user~~ the master table is remerged from the component tables and the user interface is automatically regenerated from the remerged master table in response to modification of a software component of the application.

25-28 (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 further comprising instructions whereby ~~an additional component table and wherein the master table is merged from the at least one component table and the additional component table~~ the shell application is part of a suite application providing a common environment for the plurality of components.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim ~~24~~ 29 further comprising instructions whereby ~~a removed component table of the at least one component table corresponds to a removed component and wherein the master table is merged from the remaining component tables of the at least one component table~~ the suite application has a shell user interface and each of the plurality of components has a component user interface different from the shell user interface.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 further comprising instructions whereby the master table includes available commands, menus and toolbars and the location of each available command.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1 wherein ~~the additional components are~~ can be subsequently added ~~after purchase by the a user of the application.~~

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1 wherein ~~the additional components are~~ can be subsequently added after development of the application.

34. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 wherein ~~the additional components are~~ can be subsequently added ~~after purchase by the a user of the application.~~

35. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 wherein ~~the additional components are~~ can be subsequently added after development of the application.